REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the present application.

I.   Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-16 were pending in the present application. By way of this reply, claims 1, 4, 5, 9, and 16 have been amended, new claims 17-36 have been added, and claims 2 and 6-8, 11, and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

II.   Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation that the memory comprises a storage memory for "indefinitely storing the received decompressed data." Further, claim 1 has been reformatted for purposes of clarity. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments as support for these amendments may be found, for example, in lines 18 – 21 on page 2 of the present application.

Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base original independent claim 1 (with formatting amendments) and intervening original claim 3. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Accordingly, claim 4 is now allowable.

Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base original independent claim 1 (with formatting amendments). No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Accordingly, claim 5 is now allowable.

Claim 9 has been amended to recite that the decoder comprises buffer memory means for storing compressed digital picture data prior to decompression by the processor. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitation that the decompressed digital image data is transmitted to a storage memory for "indefinite storage therein." Further, claim 16 has been reformatted for purposes of clarity. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments as support for these amendments may be found, for example, in lines 18 – 21 on page 2 of the present application.

III. Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-3 and 7-16 of the present application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,633,654 issued to Kennedy, Jr. et al. (hereinafter "Kennedy"). For the reasons set forth below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a decoder for a digital audiovisual transmission system. With reference to Figures 2 and 4 of the present application, amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application require that a decoder **13** for a digital audiovisual transmission system at least include (1) a processor **20** for decompressing and displaying compressed still picture data **60, 61, 62** and (2) a memory comprising a storage memory **66** for receiving from the processor **20** decompressed data representing a plurality of still picture images and for *indefinitely storing* the received decompressed data.

Kennedy, in contrast to the present invention, fails to disclose all the limitations

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of the claimed invention. Generally, Kennedy, which is directed to a technique for providing a video driver that permits a user to easily program a video hardware subsystem of a personal computer (PC) system (*see* Kennedy, column 2, lines 5 – 9), fails to disclose a decoder as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application and as described in the present application. As stated in lines 29 – 32 on page 5 of the present application, the term "decoder" applies to "an integrated receiver/decoder for receiving and decrypting an encrypted transmission, the receiver and decoder elements of such a system as considered separately, as well as to a receiver capable of receiving non-encrypted broadcasts." Contrastingly, Kennedy is altogether silent as to any form of reception and/or decoding of transmissions or broadcasts by the PC system to which Kennedy is directed.

Further, Kennedy fails to disclose a processor that both decompresses and displays compressed still picture data as required by amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application. Instead, with reference to Figure 1 of Kennedy, Kennedy discloses a programmable processor **118** that decompresses video data and a separate display hardware module **122** that transmits signals to monitor **108** for display.

Further, Kennedy fails to disclose a storage memory for indefinitely storing the received decompressed data as required by amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application. Instead, with reference to Figure 1 of Kennedy, the decompressed video data is stored in video RAM (VRAM) **120**, which is volatile memory that loses its contents when power to the memory is switched 'off.' The indefinite storage of the decompressed data is beneficial because data representing one or more still pictures may be held indefinitely in the storage memory as long as there is a possible requirement for

this data, even after the picture has been removed from the screen by deletion of the data from the display memory, thereby avoiding the need to store the picture in the storage memory each time it is received over the course of a number of days or weeks.

In view of the above, Kennedy fails to show or suggest the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application. Thus, amended independent claims 1 and 16 of the present application are patentable over Kennedy. Dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV.   New Claims

By way of this reply, new claims 17-36 have been added. Support for new claim 17 may be found, for example, in original claim 2.

Support for new claims 18 - 20 may be found, for example, in original claims 6 – 8, respectively.

Support for new claim 21 may be found, for example, in lines 11 and 12 on page 17 of the present application.

Support for new claim 22 may be found, for example, in original claim 11.

Support for new claim 23 may be found, for example, in original claim 12.

Support for new claims 24 - 36 may be found, for example, in original claims 2 – 14, respectively.
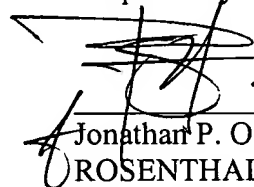
As no new matter has been added by way of new claims 17 – 36, entry and favorable treatment of these claims is respectfully requested.

V.   Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply to be fully responsive to all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 11345.021001).

Date: 10/9/03

Respectfully submitted,

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